

CLEVELAND, OHIO  
PLAIN DEALER

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# One Theater Feeds Both Stomach and Spirit

By Peter Bellamy

It is difficult to think of a more pleasurable, gracious and civilized way of going to the theater than that provided by the Peninsula Theater with its current production of "Adaptation/Next 2, 3."

"Adaptation," by Miss May, is an intellectual satire on the American Dream, the bee of success, racial and religious prejudice, monism, the college rat race, psychiatry, the C.I.A. and hotel magnate Conrad Hilton.

Written in the form of a TV quiz show or Monopoly game, it sketches the life of a contemporary American man somewhat as Shakespeare's Seven Ages of Man. It is moderately funny.

In "Adaptation," George Esworthy registers the absurd pomposity of a TV quizmaster. Judy Landis, as mother, eternal Eve and wife, displays a fine talent as an adonoidal whiner. Randy Pope hams it up deliberately and amusingly as a slob father and arrogant psychiatrist. Buck Neeley is the perfect picture of an educated high-grade moron vainly seeking the bitch goddess of material success.